

# Definition – Lessons Learned

- “A lesson learned is knowledge or understanding gained by experience. The experience may be positive, as in a successful test or mission, or negative, as in a mishap or failure. Successes are also considered sources of lessons learned. A lesson must be significant in that it has a real or assumed impact on operations; valid in that it is factually and technically correct; and applicable in that it identifies a specific design, process, or decision that reduces or eliminates the potential for failures and mishaps, or reinforces a positive result.” – NASA 1997

# Definition – Best Practices

- “A best practice is a technique or methodology that, through experience and research, has proven to reliably lead to a desired result. A commitment to using the best practices in any field is a commitment to using all the knowledge and technology at one’s disposal to ensure success.”

Submit your lessons learned and best practices

NASA Engineering Network

<http://nen.nasa.gov/nen/home/index.html>

Feedback, comments on this workshop, e-mail to:

[PI-Lessons@hq.nasa.gov](mailto:PI-Lessons@hq.nasa.gov)